base station to which the subscriber is linked at the given point of time may be displayed on the handset of the subscriber for his information. This service is not acting as a tracker to monitor the exact location or movement of the subscriber. This service is useful to the subscriber as in case of emergency, when the subscriber is in an unknown area, he can get help from Police, Ambulance or Chemist etc. with the aid of location based services.

CAG report and unused telecom equipment

415. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent CAG report stating that telecom equipment worth Rs. 100 crores are lying unused;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the action taken thereon, if any;

(c) whether Salem-Coimbatore route was not commissioned because of defective microwave equipment;

(d) if so, the action taken to rectify it;

(e) whether certain equipment was purchased while there was no requirement; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to fix the responsibility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Details of unutilized equipments are given in the Statement *(See* below). The unutilized equipment is being used/being diverted to other circles for utilization.

(c) In Salem-Tiruppur section of Salem-Coimbatore route, some modules became faulty after commissioning. As regards Tiruppur-Coimbatore section, equipment is under installation and is expected to be commissioned during this financial year.

(d) the faulty modules are being repaired through the manufacturer.

(e) Equipments are purchased on the forecast of the requirement and justification and as per the policy outlined in BSNL manual of procurement of telecom equipment and stores.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above .

Statement

The details of Telephone Equipment lying unutilized as per Audit Report are as below:

(i) 2mm Galvanised Iron wire, 171 MT worth Rs. 44.5 lacs in Chennai Telephones.

(ii) Batteries, 35 sets worth Rs. 46.27 lacs at stores depot Mohali, Punjab Circle.

(iii) 100 A, Power Plant, 308 set worth Rs. 6.68 crores at Gujarat, Karnataka, Punjab and North East Circle (Reported to be faulty).

(iv) BSNL procured 2646 High Bit Rate Digital Subscriber Line (HDSL) system out of which 630 number of HDSL approximately costing Rs. 6.25 crores have not been utilized due to technical problem in the equipment.

(v) PVC Pipes worth Rs. 1.89 crores for making duct of PIJF Cable for 2000-01 and 2001-02 could not be utilized due to new policy of minimizing cable length by planning RSUs/RLUs.

(vi) Transmission equipment worth Rs. 35 crore (Approximately) is available in the field and the same is expected to be commissioned during the current financial year.

(vii) MARR equipment worth Rs. 26.69 crore lying faulty.

(viii) 608 batteries (Solar Photo Voltaic) worth Rs. 2.05 crores are lying in Bihar Circle and planned to be used for maintenance purpose.

(ix) 39 Point to Multi Point Systems worth Rs. 13 crores approximately are under installation.